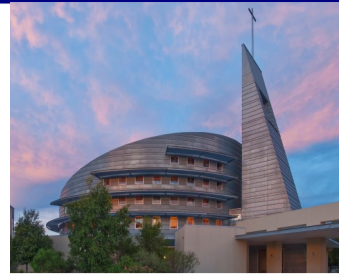




# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

"He must increase, I must decrease" (Jn 3:30)



**16<sup>th</sup> June 2024**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Under the Pastoral Care of  
The Fransalians since 2016**

## FEASTS & MEMORIALS

19 June — St Romuald

21 June — St Aloysius Gonzaga

22 June — St John Fisher & St Thomas  
More

24 June — St John the Baptist

## MASS TIMES & OTHER WORSHIP

### Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm

Sunday - 7.30am, 9.15am and 5.00pm

### Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday: Morning prayer at 8.15am

followed by the Mass at 8.30am

Saturdays & Public holidays - 9.00am

### Healing Mass

First Friday of the month during Mass at 4.00pm

### Nursing Home Masses:

Hillview House—3rd Thurs of the month  
10.30am

Peninsula Village—4th Thurs of the month  
10.00am

BlueWave—2nd Fri of the month 9.30am

### Reconciliation/Confession

Friday—9.00am

First Friday of the month - 3.30pm

Saturday - 9.30am and 4.30pm

Sunday - 7.00am

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday evenings from 7.00pm - 8.00pm

### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Mon—Fri - 8.30am—3.00pm

### Christian Meditation

Monday evenings - 6.00pm - 7.00pm

*Marian Bowyer - 0432 882 776*

## PARISH CONTACTS

### Parish Priest

*Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.*

### Assistant Priest

*Fr. Alex Peter M.S.F.S.*

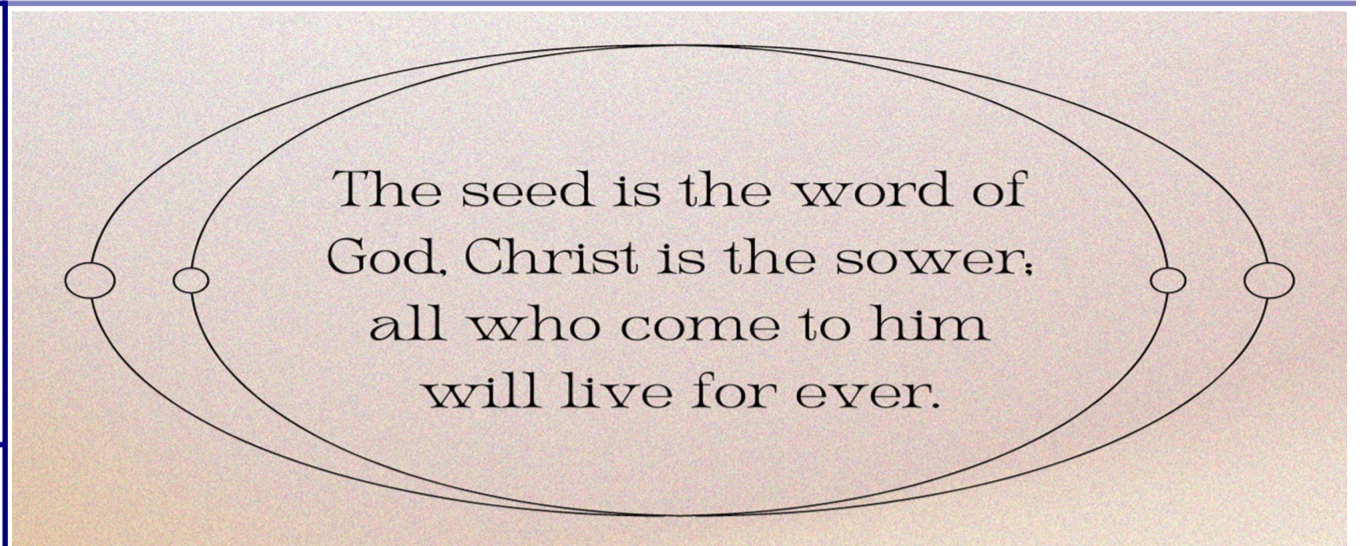
### Parish Secretary

*Triona Meagher*

*P: 02 4341 1073*

*Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327*

*E:woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au*



On this 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Church reminds us that, as part of God's kingdom, the Church of Christ is like a tree planted by God in the world. From the smallest of all seeds, she becomes the noblest of trees and fills the earth. She is the physical evidence of God's kingdom. So, like the birds of the air, we are called to make our home in her.

The first reading is a message of hope and restoration. Through prophet Ezekiel God promised to re-establish and elevate his people who were in exile in Babylon. This means that God wishes to transfer his people from a kingdom of oppression, poverty, and misery to a realm of justice, prosperity, and peace of mind. This is the kingdom where Christ reigns as king and as the fountain of life. This is the kingdom where God wishes us to be. The Church is the visible sign of this noble cedar or kingdom that gives refuge to all people.

In the second reading, Paul reminds us that we are on a journey towards the kingdom of God to be with Christ, our Lord, and king. Hence, whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we must remain focused on pleasing the Lord. The journey to this kingdom is a journey that must be approached with faith and courage. Hence Paul reminds us: "Going as we do by faith and not by sight, we are full of confidence...and want to leave this body to be with Christ." In light of this, we must advance diligently to be admitted into this kingdom by Christ.

In today's Gospel, Christ uses two parables to describe the kingdom of God. The kingdom he invites us to is a simple and peaceful one. It is open to all who seek it with a sincere heart. The easiest way to enter into it is by sowing a seed of faith in Christ. This is the key.

Hence, in the second parable, the mustard seed, the smallest seed, refers to our faith. "If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed...nothing will be impossible for you" (Mt 17, 20). This includes entering the kingdom of God. However, it is important to note that the authenticity of our faith must be tested (James 1:3; 1Peter 1:7).

Faith grows, and when it does, it achieves great things. As it grows, it leads us to Christ and, consequently, to his kingdom. Our faith also draws others to Christ and his church, the visible sign of God's kingdom on earth. As Christ says: "The birds of the air come to take shelter under its branches."

How does our faith draw others to Christ? When we demonstrate or bear a good testimony of our individual and collective faith, the result is excellent. Lives could be touched and transformed. A few persons might come to believe in God.

Also, a youth might present himself for a particular sacrament and service in the church. A young couple might decide to normalise their marriage in the Church. Someone might decide to give up a very old and bad habit, while another might choose to forgive another. These may seem too insignificant achievements, but the seed is growing. Consequently, this leads to the growth of the Church. The Church is the visible sign of God's kingdom on earth and will continue to be. As our faith grows, the Church, the body of Christ grows and, more people are drawn into the comfort of God's kingdom.

<https://frcanicenjoku.com/2021/06/08/homily-for-11th-sunday-of-ordinary-time-year-b-3/>

**Parish News:**


**Thanks:** We give sincere thanks to Fr Bill Stevens who celebrated Mass this week while Fr Timothy and Fr Alex were away at the Clergy Conference.

**Feast of St John the Baptist:** There will be a BBQ after 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June in advance of the Feast of St John the Baptist to be celebrated on 24th June. All welcome.

**Sit n Chat:** A group of seniors meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. June's meeting is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join the group please contact Jane on 0419 233 284. Transport can be provided if necessary.

**Baptisms:** We warmly welcome, Aidan, Llewyn, Diego, Gabriella, Luis, Natalia & Hudson who will be Baptised this weekend.

**St John the Baptist Men's Group:** Meetings to be held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from 7.00pm-8.00pm in the Leo Mahon Room. Next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> June. Contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

 **Vinnies Winter Appeal:** There will be a Vinnies Winter Appeal this weekend, 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> June. Envelopes will be available for donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Pastoral Works Broken Bay Appeal:** Many thanks for your support of the Pastoral Works Broken Bay Appeal. The quota set for the financial year was \$28,759 and we have raised \$26,790 so far. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Sacramental Programme 2024:**

**Confirmation:**

Please keep the candidates in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> June at 11.00am.

**First Reconciliation:** Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00pm.

**Cleaners for 21<sup>st</sup> June:** Jo MacMillan, Andrew Hopkins, Reg Harrington, Linda Potestas.

**Readers for 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> June:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Somerville, Mayo Tripolone, Paul Rutherford

Sunday 7.30am—Veronica Jordan, Joel Bajo, Ann Hall

Sunday 9.15am—Michael Dixon, Colleen McCormack, Christine French

Sunday 5.00pm—Sherrisse Collard, Peter Smith, Marian Bowyer

**Servers for 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> June:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman & Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Rae Busby & Jose Torres

Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson & Hanaa El-Khatib

Sunday 5.00pm—Charles Kivunja

**Safeguarding Team:** Should a parishioner have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Team Members: Jenny Dempsey 0438 423 293 or Margaret Dixon 0422 277 548.

**Who are the catechists and what do they do?**

A catechist is a person who gifts an hour or more each week to the Catholic children who attend the public schools. We

have 4 public primary schools in our parish—Ettalong PS, Woy Woy PS, Woy Woy South PS and Umina PS. The catechists prepare and present lessons from the Walking With Jesus programme to the children. These lessons are about what it means to be a Catholic Christian. They are based on the Holy Scriptures and the teaching of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. If you wish to find out more about being a catechist come to the Catechist Meeting on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> June at 9.15 a.m. to meet the current catechists or contact Michael Tebbutt on 0437 440 169 for more information.

**El Shaddai:** The next El Shaddai meeting will be Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June from 12-4 in the Walter Baker Hall.

**St Francis de Sales:**

According to St Francis de Sales, anger often arises from several key causes, which he addresses in his spiritual writings. These causes are rooted in both human nature and specific situational triggers:

**Pride and Self-Love:** St Francis de Sales identifies pride and excessive self-love as fundamental causes of anger. When our pride is wounded or our sense of self-importance is challenged, we are more likely to react with anger. This is because we feel our dignity or value is being undermined.

**Impatience:** Impatience is another major cause of anger. St Francis emphasises the importance of cultivating patience to counteract this tendency.

**Lack of Charity and Humility:** A lack of charity (love) and humility can lead to anger. Humility helps us see ourselves accurately and relate to others with compassion, reducing the likelihood of anger.

**Unfulfilled Desires:** Unfulfilled desires and thwarted plans can trigger anger. When we are deeply attached to specific outcomes and these do not materialise, the resulting disappointment and frustration often manifest as anger.

**External Provocations:** While internal dispositions play a significant role, external provocations can also cause anger. These include situations where we feel wronged, insulted, or unjustly treated. St Francis advises responding to such provocations with calm and gentleness rather than anger.

**Addressing the Causes:** To address these causes, St Francis de Sales suggests cultivating virtues that counteract them, such as humility, patience, charity, and reliance on divine grace. By recognising and understanding the roots of our anger, we can take deliberate steps to overcome it.

**Practical Guidance:**

**Self-Examination:** Regular self-examination can help identify the underlying causes of anger in specific situations.

**Prayer and Sacraments:** Engaging in prayer and the sacraments provides spiritual strength to deal with anger.

**Meditation on Christ's Example:** Reflecting on the life of Christ and his responses to provocation can inspire more loving and patient reactions.

**Daily Practice of Virtues:** Consistently practicing humility, patience, and charity can transform our responses over time. By addressing these root causes through spiritual and practical means, St Francis de Sales believes that individuals can overcome anger and cultivate a more peaceful and gentle disposition.

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## **Reading 1: Ezek 17:22-24**

Thus says the Lord GOD: I, too, will take from the crest of the cedar, from its topmost branches tear off a tender shoot, and plant it on a high and lofty mountain; on the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it. It shall put forth branches and bear fruit and become a majestic cedar. Birds of every kind shall dwell beneath it, every winged thing in the shade of its boughs. And all the trees of the field shall know that I, the LORD, bring low the high tree, lift high the lowly tree, wither up the green tree, and make the withered tree bloom. As I, the LORD, have spoken, so will I do.

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

### **R. Lord it is good to give thanks to you.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night.

### **R. Lord it is good to give thanks to you.**

The just will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a Lebanon Cedar. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God.

### **R. Lord it is good to give thanks to you.**

They are still bearing fruit when they are old, they are still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In Him, my rock, there is no wrong.

### **R. Lord it is good to give thanks to you.**

## **Reading 2: 2 Cor 5:6-10**

Brothers and sisters: We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

## **Alleluia:**

### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will live forever.

### **R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Mk 4:26-34**

Jesus said to the crowds: "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come." He said, "To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it. Without parables he did not speak to them, but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.



## Keep us in your Prayers—pray for the souls of:

**Recently deceased:** Maria Calleja, Rev Fr Brendan Dillon, Hadya Jirjis, Rev Fr Tony McCarthy, John McEwan, Kenneth Leslie Spilsted

**Anniversary:** Helen Brown, Wafaa El-Khatib, Adam Meany, Frank Vella

**Remembrance:** Charlie Grima

**Sick:** Melissa Bezzina, Lisa Ryan, Marie Head, Lisa Yeo, Marta Panczyna, Oscar James Moretti, Linda Italiano, Eneio Wolfgram, Emma Matthews, Eileen Jones, Kathleen Bezzina, Moya Jones, Chris Mitchell, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Robert Baker, Josephine Weate, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Pat Savage, John Mitchell, Donna Vella, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Rose Aloisio, Tina Cohen, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Georgie Brigdale, Sue Campbell, Bobby Brame, Kerrie Roberts, Lauren Alchin, Bruce Yip, Ada Primrose Murphy, Cathy Eades, James Matthews, Doreen Arahill, Theresa Mitchell, Anita Servi, Jean Pierre, Michael Tannous, Marsha Burzynski, Emma Mitchell, Lola De Souza, Bev Purser, Joseph King, Vicki Leach, Willy Woods, John Zdilar, Alison Richmond, John Farnham, Chris Parker, Alana Rose, Joy Burt, Stan Page, Roger Lambert, Ron Manning, Ken Dixon, Maria Lourenco, Doris Coleman, Alice Lynn, Dianne Smyth, Gail Smith, Roy Cutrone, Wendy Cohen, Bill Hunt, Alan Ball, Betty McDermott, Vicki Pirie, Beau Burt, Joel Lloyd, Belinda Cochrane, Ken Stewart, Tom Shepherd, Lorraine Blandford, Michael Searle, Mary Lucas, Maxine Tinkler, Lindsay Clark, Jack Rogan-Clark, Helen Tiltins, Shirley Brinkworth, Iris Drewett, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Van Mitchell, Chris Burt, Brian Searle, Sean McDermott, Gemma Tracey, Mark Richmond, Jai Kurt, Jodie Fleming, Alana Rose, Michael Juelg, Dr Richard Scolyer, Trevor Hailey, Joss Mitchell, Marie Day, Oakley Mitchell, Jessie Mitchell, Olive Drewett, Matt Mitchell



### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June

#### For migrants fleeing their homes

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

### PARISH COLLECTIONS

**1st collection:** goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests

**2nd Collection:** Funds the operational management of the Parish

You can also donate via Bpoint, which will take you to our Website for secure online payments. <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/woywoyparish>

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**BSB: 062 784 Account no: 10000 1742**

Thank you for your generous contribution.

Thank You



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